

Let Muhyiddin speak if Umno believes in democracy, says Dr Mahathir
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By KC Nazari

Umno deputy president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin should be allowed to address the party's general assembly next month to show that the party understands democracy, former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad says today.

"If he (Muhyiddin) wants to speak, I hope the speaker will give him a chance.

"If not, we should not be talking about democracy. If our speeches are only full of praise for Datuk Seri Najib (Razak), this party is no longer Umno," Dr Mahathir told reporters today after the KL Summit 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.

Najib, who is Umno president and prime minister, said last week the party would do away with the tradition of having the deputy president officiate the opening of the Youth, Wanita and Puteri wings' assemblies.

Instead, their respective heads will launch the meetings.

The move effectively prevents Muhyiddin from addressing party members. He remains Umno's deputy president despite being dropped as deputy prime minister in a July Cabinet reshuffle, after openly criticising Najib's handling of state-owned investment firm 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) and the RM2.6 billion channelled into the prime minister's bank accounts. – November 29, 2015.

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